The Bookworks

1409 - 5th Street
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August 18,1972

Dear Stewart and Lois,

Hi. Welcome back from Nova Scotia! I'm sure you both had many adventures; hope to hear about some of them soon. The summer has been pretty good for us. We spent two weeks camping around Oregon and leave Sept. 10th for two more in New York and New England. Lloyd is just returning from a trip to Ireland and England, and Don Burns is now Penguin west coast Associate Editor. So much for general news.

Sales figures on LWEC look like this: (thru week ending 8/11/72)

total copies sold:	930,546
total sold in 1972:	256,056
returns ~~XX~~ total:	12,750
total weekly sales:	5,667
week's returns:	264

wip: 100,000 copies on press of the 9th printing, bearing the cover change - Updated, August 1972; book ready date - 25,000 ready August 25th, 75,000 ready Sept. 8th. Backorders to date: 10,584.

Comment: sales are averaging 5,000 to 6,000 a week, with LWEC now being reported in Western Letter as no. 1 quality paperback bestseller west of Mississippi. In other words, looks pretty steady, no end in sight. I imagine Random will be calling to reprint again before ~~X~~mas.

I am sending you under separate cover a copy of the Penguin edition of LWEC. As per contract, it is manufactured under Random's supervision and shipped to England, ~~which~~ and there is under way now. Should be on sale there soon. The job looks pretty good; the only error I've spotted so far is the omission on the copyright page of a line that this is a special edition printed for Penguin, etc., which error has already been corrected for the reprint, when there is one.

Hope you have received, as I have, a copy of the National Book Committee award for LWEC. If, for some reason you can't find it, let me know. Mine was first sent in a mailing tube, which arrived with the end torn and the contents lifted out. I got a replacement.

Perhaps you talked with Larry Klein and know that the dispute with Random was settled. You are getting 2/3 of the $96,000 in dispute and the production charge in future will be 2 1/2% (about $.07 a book). I think Larry did a very good job settling what seemed to me to be a growing disagreement. Seemed like everything I tried to do to get

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Random to back down from their demand for the $96 grand only made the hiatus worse. Larry was good counsel and very efficient in resolving the dilema when he sensed the time was right. I think we got a liveable solution. The only way to get more dough seemed to be to go to court, but that would break up the future. Of course, we can rap this out further any time you want.

TOOTH TRIP will be out by the middle of September; I'll send you a copy.

Guess that's all the business. Give me a call when you get settled in, I'd just like to say hello and jaw a bit!

Don